

## Santa Bárbara

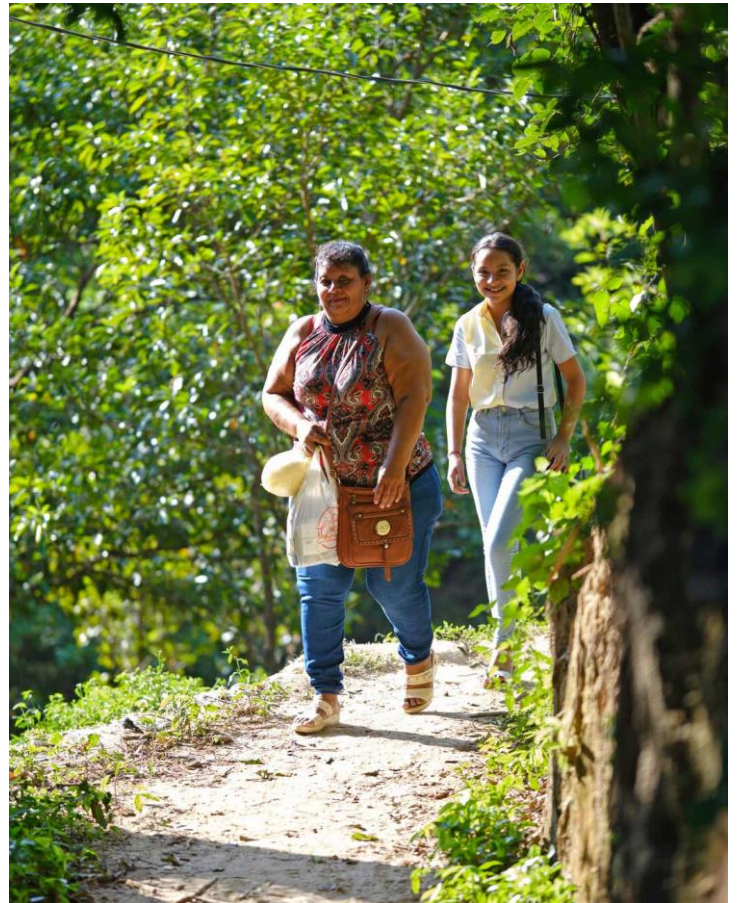
### Honduras

**Positive changes are happening in Santa Bárbara. Learn more about how we're supporting children and girls' rights through our collaborative, equality-driven work.**

This past year, key projects fostered skills and strengthened resources for young people and families.

For example, community-based organisations are amplifying the voices of women in rural and Indigenous communities in Santa Bárbara as they advocate for their rights. The project reached 15,486 people in the first year of implementation.

In addition, the Generation with Decision and Leadership programme is empowering young people with information and resources on sexual and reproductive health rights, and the tools to advocate for themselves.



Santa Bárbara has a young population: 39% are under 18.

**"The Taking Office event has undoubtedly been one of the best experiences of my life that I will treasure in my heart." - Karla (11)**



### Impact in Numbers

# 3,028

**children celebrated the Day of the Girl Child**

# 741

**youth learned about menstrual hygiene**

# 1,979

**people affected by floods received humanitarian aid**

# Developing skills to succeed



**NAME:**

**Marta Lidia**

**AGE:**

**17 years old**

**DREAMS TO BE:**

**A business owner**

**"I realise that yes, I am capable of achieving many goals that I set for myself and I can decide about my future."**



## Meet Marta Lidia

**Like many children in Honduras, Marta Lidia is making steps to achieving her goals and building a stronger future for herself.**

Seventeen-year-old Marta lives with her parents. Her father is a farmer and her mother cares for the home. Marta dreams of starting her own business and challenging gender stereotypes in her family and community. She wants to improve her quality of life and create employment for other young women.

As a leader, Marta is engaged in her community. She taught literacy to adults through a government project, which then encouraged her to continue training in a variety of subjects. She's currently part of Plan's Generation with Opportunities project, where she attended vocational courses. She's just completed an entrepreneurship programme.

## Challenging Harmful Cultural Expectations

Rates of early pregnancy are high in Marta's community. Many girls get married at an early age and leave school. Early pregnancy and marriage has an effect on girls' health and limits future opportunities as they become dependent on their partners.

## Encouraging Others

Through the Generation with Opportunities programme, Marta is developing skills to help her achieve her dreams. She has a business plan and will soon have the chance to earn seed capital and start her business. Her achievements are an inspiration.

Marta wants others to succeed, too. She says: "I would like these important opportunities to be given to other girls in my community, so they can also learn, make decisions and make changes that will improve their lives and the lives of their families."



Marta's accomplishments are inspiring other pupils.

**We Work With 5,337 Sponsored Children in Santa Bárbara**



# Projects That Support Lasting Change

## Speaking Their Power

**Community organisations amplify the voices of Indigenous women, and women living in rural areas.**

This year, more than 60 community facilitators trained on women's rights, justice and political advocacy, and shared their knowledge with a further 445 women. More than 100 community-based organisations from the areas of Intibucá, Lempira and Santa Bárbara participated in the project.

The Zabalanquira Declaration was signed by 19 Municipal Corporations, committing to the elimination of violence and discrimination. In addition, representatives from local authorities joined teachers and health service providers for roundtables on gender-based violence.

Participant Dauni says, "I feel capable of defending my rights and those of my fellow women. Now I have experience, and I have trained other women's groups about the rights we have."



Community-based organisations promote awareness of human rights.

**1,193**  
**women learnt about  
violence prevention**



Young people developing their business idea.

## Skills to Succeed

**Young people are accessing resources in order to improve educational and employment opportunities.**

The Generation With Opportunities project empowers adolescents and young people, particularly women, with the tools and resources to expand their skills and opportunities for job placement and entrepreneurial opportunities.

This year, 243 young people gained skills for self-esteem, conflict resolution and work performance. In addition, 165 young people learned to implement the Skills for Life methodology with a focus on employment, to prepare to enter the labour market.

Training was developed in coordination with the Ministry of Labour and the Si Empleo Office for employers and human resources personnel from public and private institutions, to develop hiring principles based on labour rights, decent and inclusive work, and equal opportunities.



Youth participated in employment and entrepreneurial projects.

**"I feel more confident in my opinions. It gives me security to participate in job interviews and to find a job."**  
**- Riccy (19)**

# You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Today's youth are becoming leaders of change for inclusion and gender equality.

**Together, we're working to create a more just world.**

High rates of early pregnancy remain a concern in Honduras, with especially high numbers in Santa Bárbara. We will continue to provide accurate, accessible information and resources for young people, and help strengthen knowledge through a new Comprehensive Sexuality Education programme.

We will support adolescents and young people with the "Generation with Opportunities" initiative.

Protecting children from violence is key. We will advocate for child protection at all programme levels and will request the National Human Rights Commissioner follow up on reported complaints.

## Message from Plan Staff

"I express my gratitude for your sponsorship of children, adolescents and young people in our department. We work so that children enjoy a quality education, live free from all types of violence and have their human rights respected. We invite you to continue joining this noble cause."



Yasmin Roseli Medina Rivera,  
Programme Area  
Manager, Santa  
Bárbara

## The Plan Effect

Sponsored children are at the centre of everything we do, and they help plan our programmes based on what's important to them. Sponsors' donations are a gateway into a community. This helps build trust and credibility to attract even more funds from new sources. This makes more sustainable programmes possible in sponsorship communities. This powerful synergy is something we call The Plan Effect.

## Progress in Numbers

**200**

people trained on  
safeguarding and  
rights

**248**

hygiene and  
dignity kits were  
provided to youth

**37**

educators were  
trained on  
inclusive teaching

**741**

young people  
learned about  
menstrual health